THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI MD. SALIM) : The question is :

"That the Bill to establish and incorporate a teaching and residential University in the State of Assam at Tezpur and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto be taken into consideration."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI MD. SALIM) : We shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 44, the First Schedule and the Second Schedule were added to the Bill

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI MD. SLAIM) : Clause 1. There is one amendment by the Minister.

Clause 1—Short title and commencement.

KUMARI SELJA : I move :

"That at page 1, line 3, *for* the figure '1992' the figure '1993' be *substituted.*"

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI MD. SALIM) : I shall now put Clause 1 to vote.

The question is :

"That Clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, *as amended, was added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI MD. SALIM) : We shall now take up the Enacting Formula. There is one amendment.

KUMARI SELJA : I beg to move :

"That at page 1, line 1 for the word "Forty-third" the word "Forty-fourth" be substituted."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI MD. SALIM) : I shall now put the Enacting Formula, as amended, to vote. The question is :

"That the Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill. The Title was added to the Bill.

KUMARI SELJA : Sir, I move :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

THE CINE WORKERS WELFARE CESS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : Sir, on behalf of Shri P. A. Sangma, I beg to move :

That the Bill to amend the Cine-workers Welfare Cess Act, 1981, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

Sir, the Cine-workers Welfare Fund Act of 1981 was enacted for taking up various activities for promoting the welfare of the cine-workers as devised under the Act. The Cine-workers Welfare Cess Act of 1981 provides for levy of a cess at the rate of Rs. 1,000 per feature film, and the revenue thus realised is credited to the Cine-workers Welfare Fund. "Cine-workers", as defined in the Cine-worker

Welfare Fund Act of 1981 means those who are employed in the film industry, those who are drawing salary not exceeding Rs. 1,600 per month if employed on a monthly basis and on a remuneration of Rs. 8,000 if it is by way of lumpsum.

Sir, there are more than 27,000 identified cine-workers in this country in various metropolises where the cinema industry is there. There is a constant demand from various organisations and unions of cine-workers to enlarge the welfare activity among the cine-workers of this country as it is done by other welfare funds of our country like the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund or the Mine workers Welfare Fund.

Sir, this income of Rs. 1,000 per cinema is very meagre. So, this is the main purpose of this Amendment, that by this Amendment the Central Government is empowered to increase the cess from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 20,000. It has become very difficult for the Government to come to Parliament for each increase. With this Amendment, we are authorising the Central Government to raise the cess from Rs. 1,000 to 20,000 by a notification. With the increased income of the Welfare Fund, Government intends to take up some more welfare schemes for the cine-workers of this country.

With these words, I commend that this Bill, as passed by the Lok Sabha on 20-4-93, be taken into consideration and adopted by this House.

The question was proposed.

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर (उत्तर प्रदेश) : यह बिल तो अच्छा है, ठीक किया है । अंतर इतना ही है कि 1981 में यह बिल पास हुआ था और इसका संशोधन करने में 1993 तक का समय नहीं लगना चाहिए था । इससे पहले ही सैस लगा देना चाहिए था । दूसरे, यदि आप इस बिल के साथ कोई स्कीम रखते कि जो पैसा जमा होगा वह कहां होगा, कौन करेगा, कैसे बांटा जाएगा, उसकी पूरी स्कीम आनी चाहिए थी और मैं समझता हूं कि उसकी पूरी स्कीम सरकार बहुत जल्दी सामने रखेगी और इससे पूर्व कि वह उस स्कीम को फाइनल करे, जो सिने वर्कर्स की डिफरेंट आर्गेनाइजेशंस हैं, उनसे भी उनको परामर्श करना चाहिए ।

श्रीमन, इसी संदर्भ में मैं स्मरण करा दूं आपके मंत्रालय को और आपको और शायद आपको याद भी होगा कि महात्मा गांधी पर एक बड़े विख्यात अंग्रेज व्यक्ति ऐटिनबरो ने एक फिल्म बनाई थी । उस समय उन्होंने वादा किया था कि वर्कर्स के फंड में कुछ पैसा जमा करेंगे । वह कई करोड़ रुपया अभी तक दिया नहीं गया । तो मैं सरकार को स्मरण कराना चाहता हूं कि वह पैसा भी वसूल किया जाना चाहिए और उसको सैस के साथ जमा किया जाए और सिने वर्कर्स के उपयोग में उसको लाया जाए ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI MD. SALIM) : Shri John F. Fernandes—absent,

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry) : Sir, the Bill is a very small one. It is the first amendment to the Act, if I am right. The purpose of bringing in this amendment is to increase the cess on each feature film from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 20,000. Roughly between 750 and 800 films are being produced every year in this country. The amount that has to be collected by this will be about Rs. 80 lakhs.

There is a demand from the various persons involved in the production of films right from those who are working

in the field, like the make-up man, light boys and also persons who are preparing the scenes and the cameraman and others to improve their living conditions. When we find their living conditions and that of those acting as substitutes in the film industry are very pitiable. The hon. Minister now brings in an amendment which is not going to help them in any way, though it is a good beginning. If we see in Bombay largest number of films are being produced. Next comes Madras and then Hyderabad. In Bangalore also a lot of films are being produced. In these places lakhs of people are engaged in production of feature films, a major entertainment item in this country for the people living in slums and also in towns, but the condition of these people whether it is their habitation, health care, education for their children and the insurance schemes is not included under the welfare scheme. Especially the people who are engaged in the field of preparing background scenes are working in a very odd situation risking their lives. Those people also should be taken care of.

In Kerala there is a novel scheme which the Government of Kerala has introduced by which the facilities which I mentioned just now have been implemented.

When we go through the entire Act of Cine-Workers Welfare Cess Act, 1981, the enabling provisions are Section 3 and Section 4. They are the two operative sections.

That is mobilisation of funds for the welfare of cine-workers. This Bill aims at providing facilities and welfare schemes to those persons who are involved in the cine films. But there are two echelons in this category. As far as the film stars are concerned, they are getting maximum money from the films in which they are acting. The producers are also getting enormous money for the production of films. Directors are also getting huge money. Distributors of the films are also getting enormous money. The theatre owners are also getting huge money. But the people who are actually in the making of the film are being ignored. The Cine-Workers Welfare Cess (Amendment) Bill, 1992 which the Minister has brought before us is not going to serve all the people who are working in the film industry. Through the cess he is going to collect Rs. 8 lakhs. But this is not going to solve the problem of all the people working in the film industry. Therefore, there is a strong demand from the cine-workers that cine field should be declared as an industry. If it is declared as an industry, then, the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act can be applied to this industry. They can also form unions. They can also derive benefit from the Provident Fund Scheme. Even the improvement of their working conditions can also be covered. Actually they are working eighteen hours or twenty hours a day under very, very odd conditions. Their demand is a genuine one. Therefore, it should be accepted. They are being exploited by the producers who are producing the films, by the distributors and others. For the welfare cinema theatre workers they have got a separate Act. But for the people working in the cinema industry and the production side, they do not have any such thing. Therefore, declaring the cine field as an industry will definitely fulfil the aspirations of the people who are working in that particular field.

I find from the film industry, most of the film stars have become Chief Ministers. Especially from the South, superstars have become Chief Ministers.

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM (ANDHRA PRADESH) : I advise Mr. Narayanasamy also to join the film industry so that one day he can become the Chief Minister of Pondicherry.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : I am quoting his leader. That is why he got hurt.

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : When pilots can become Prime Ministers, why film stars could not become Chief Ministers ?

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : I have no grudge against them. I am only quoting the people who were involved in the cine-field and became Chief Ministers.

SHRI VISHVJIT P. SINGH (Maharashtra) : One problem, Sir, When pilots become Prime Ministers, they stop being pilots and they really become Prime Ministers. The problem with the film stars is that when they become Chief Ministers, they continue acting in films. That is the problem. The chief example of that is Mr. Rama Rao.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Even after becoming Chief Minister, he had acted in films. That is the whole trouble.

Recently in Tamil Nadu, there was a dispute between the producers and the cine artistes. The producers boycotted the cine-artistes. The cine-artistes did not sign an agreement with the producers. were not the producers or the films stars but the people who are working in the field. The producers have got enough money. The films stars have got enough money. But the people working in the field were affected.

Therefore, a lot of problems are there. The hon. Minister though he is not holding the portfolio concerned, he is substituting for Mr. Sangma in this House now—should take this advice and tell Mr. Sangma to call the representatives of cine workers' organisations and have a discussion, dialogue, with them, hear their problems and try to solve them. Though the industry looks small, lakhs and lakhs of people are involved in the industry on both part-time and full-time bases. Therefore, the industry should be taken care of by the hon. Minister.

I will be failing in my duty if I do not refer to the other artistes in the country. In those days, when the Maharajas were ruling the country, due respect and place were given to the artistes and they had been honoured by the Maharajas. Now the artistes in drama, dance, music, vocal and instrumental and carnatic and others, are being ignored. They are not taken care of. They do only one thing. They give them awards. And, with that, they forget the artistes in the country Only in India we can proudly say that artistes have earned a name for this country abroad. So many artistes who have earned a good name for the country have been forgotten and they are living in very poor conditions. Therefore, this Government has to identify them and try to help their families. You are helping the freedom-fighters because they brought good name for the country by fighting against the British. Artistes are doing the country proud by performing abroad. They have been ignored by this Government. I request the Government to take care of the living conditions of these people.

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA (Bihar) : You are being televised now.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Thank you. These people, the cameramen, are working here. They should also be taken care of. (Interruptions).

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI MD. SALIM) : Allow him to concentrate.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : There are many artistes in the country who have got good name and fame in their respective fields. They should be taken care of by the Ministry, not only by this Ministry but by the other Ministries concerned like the Human Resource Development and External Affairs Ministries and others. The External Affairs Ministry has brought out records about the performances of artistes who have gone abroad and given performances for the purpose of giving a good name to this country. Here, they are getting money from film producers for feature films. What is the contribution of the Government for this purpose ? You are

collecting Rs. 8 lakhs from them. And from your side, from the Government side, what is the contribution ? What are the measures you are taking for the purpose of benefiting these people who are involved in this industry ? I want the hon. Minister to answer this.

This is a very, very small Bill. Much has to be done for cine workers. I want the Minister to come with a comprehensive Bill for helping these people who are involved in the film industry. While concluding with these words, I expect that the hon. Minister would react to my suggestions.

SHRI SARADA MOHANTY (Orissa) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, at the outset, I support this Bill. I welcome this Bill. The Act is of the year 1981. Now we are in 1993. Twelve years have passed in the meantime. This measure could have been brought earlier by which we could have had more funds for these workers. The workers in the cine industry are the most neglected ones. They have problems of housing, health and education. I think if we utilise the fund for the benefit of the workers in the industry, it will be better.

My second point is this. Whether the amount allocated is properly utilised or not, that should be looked into. We have formed the Welfare Fund for promoting the welfare of the cine-workers. If the workers will not get the amount allocated for their welfare, if their welfare is not done, then they will be harassed.

They are poor people. They are getting only Rs. 1,600 per month. In these hard days it is not possible for them to get medicines for their ailing children or to give proper education to them. So the Fund that is going to be created should be properly utilised.

Another thing is, when you are going to give old-age pension to your brethren in some States these cine-workers should also be given the old-age pension. So I welcome this Bill.

श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी (पश्चिमी बंगाल)—उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, एक युग बीत गया । 1981 में सरकार ने सिनेमा कर्मकारों के कल्याण के लिए एक कोष की स्थापना की और अब 12 वर्षों के बाद सरकार को यह इल्हाम हुआ कि जो कुछ किया गया था वह नाकाफी था, ऊंट के मुंह में जीरे के समान था । हमारे देश के कर्मकारों के प्रति, मजदूरों के प्रति सरकार के इस ढीलेढाले रवैये को देखकर मुझे गालिब की याद आ जाती है । आह को चाहिए एक उम्र असर होने तक । हमारी सरकार वास्तव में जब तक पानी हद से बाहर नहीं हो जाता तब तक होश में नहीं आती है । सिनेमा के रूपहले परदे की चमक दमक के पीछे जो अंधेरी दुनिया है, जो इस सिनेमा जगत के झिलमिलाते ताने-बाने को बनाती है, इस ताने-बाने को बुनती है, अपना खून पसीना उस पर लगाती है, यह खून पसीना बहाने वाले पर इस सरकार का ध्यान नहीं जाता है क्योंकि हमारी सरकार का परिचय उस मीनार से है जिस मीनार का निर्माण उन नींव के पत्थरों से होता है जिन नींव के पत्थरों को देखने में सरकार कतराती है क्योंकि सरकार को हमेशा यह खौफ रहता है कि नींव के पत्थरों के पोसीदा अगर जान जाएंगे तो जलजला आ जाएगा। इसलिए जलजला न आये, इन नींव के पत्थरों की बातों को पोसीदा रखा जाता है । मैं सरकार का आवाह्न करना चाहती हूं कि—

> खूबसूरत सफीटों में बंदी हमारे दोस्त,
> न रहते तो हमारे दांव, पर दुनिया
> देख जाते ।

एक मीनार से परिचित हमारे दोस्त,
कुतुब की लाट से अधिक ऊंचे और गहरे,
हमारे घर उठे इस कर्ज की सौ-सौ,
मीनारे तो देख जाते ।

जिस सिनेमा जगत की बात हम करने जा रहे हैं, आप जानते होंगे, भारत सिनेमा जगत का शायद दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा देश है जहां पर साल में नौ सौ से ज्यादा पिक्चरें बनाई जाती है । इसमें करोड़ों का वारा-न्यारा होता है और यह वारा-न्यारा कुछ शिखर पर बैठे हुए लोगों के बीच में होता है, नीचे तक तो खुरचन तक भी नहीं पहुंचती है । एक सरकारी हिसाब लगाया गया है कि फिल्म जगत में 27 हजार से ज्यादा कर्मकार जुड़े हुए हैं । वर्षों से हम लगातार यह मांग उठाते आ रहे हैं कि सिनेमा को एक उद्योग का रूप दे दिया जाय । लेकिन सरकार के नक्कारखाने में हमारी आवाज सिर्फ तूती की आवाज बनकर रह गई है । सिनेमा व्यवसाय से जुड़े लोगों और व्यवसायियों के हितों की रक्षा करने के लिए यह सरकार सिनेमा को एक उद्योग मानने से इंकार करती रही है क्योंकि ऐसा करके हजारों मजदूर जो इस उद्योग से जुड़े हुए हैं, उनके साथ जो अन्याय और जुल्म हो रहा है, सिनेमा को अगर उद्योग का दर्जा दे दिया जाता है तो शायद यह अन्याय और जुल्म समाप्त हो जाएगा और मजदूरों को उनका न्यायिक हक मिल जाता है । आज सरकार इस कोष के जरिये, हमारे इन कर्मकारों पर जिस दयाभाव का प्रदर्शन करने जा रही है, लेकिन अगर हमारे मजदूर स्वयं इन तमाम अधिकारों के हकदार होते, भविष्य निधि, आवास की समस्या तथा तमाम सारे सामाजिक सुरक्षाओं के वे हकदार होते, किसी की दया के मोहताज नहीं होते तब ठीक था । लेकिन सरकार सिर्फ एक कोष का निर्माण करके मजदूरों के प्रति, हमारे सिनेमा जगत से जुड़े कर्मकारों के प्रति दया का भाव दिखाना चाहती है लेकिन वह उनके वाजिब हक को देने से कतरा रहीं है । उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, जो भी हो, यह विधेयक सरकार लाई है । राई भर भी अगर हमारे कर्मियों को, नीचे के तबके के लोगों के लिये, मजदूरों के लिये कुछ किया जाता है तो हम उनका निश्चित रूप से स्वागत करेंगे ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, लेकिन इसके साथ ही मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान इस तरफ आकर्षित करना चाहती हूं कि आज हमारे सिनेमा जगत की हालत क्या है ? आज के सिनेमा जगत को अगर हम देखें तो पता चलता है कि हमारे सिनेमा जगत से जुड़े हुए लोगों में नैतिकता और अनैतिकता का कोई बोध ही नहीं रहा है । जो जितना बड़ा है वह उतनी ही गहराई के साथ तस्करों के साथ जुड़ा हुआ दिखाई देता है । कितनी दुर्भाग्य की बात है कि अपने ही लोगों से रंगदारी टैक्स वसूल करने वाले संगठित राजनैतिक गिरोह हैं । मुंबई में कुछ ऐसे संगठित राजनैतिक गिरोह उदय हुए हैं जो इन अनैतिक लोगों से रंगदारी टैक्स वसूल करते हैं, इनको धौंस दिया करते हैं, धमकियां दिया करते हैं । आज जिस समय हम लोग इस विधेयक पर चर्चा कर रहे हैं उस समय ऐसा लगता है कि पूरे मुंबई के सिनेमा जगत में एक मातम छाया हुआ है । हालत यह है कि

बंबइया फिल्मों में जिस हिंसा, सेक्स और अपराधों को हम देखते रहे हैं, ऐसा लगता है कि शायद ये बंबइया फिल्में स्वयं अपने ही जगत का आत्म-चित्रण करती रही हैं। अनैतिकता किस तरह उन पर हावी है, आज यह मुंबई की घटनाओं को देखने से पता चलता है। इसलिये उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहूंगी कि जिस तरह फिल्मों में दिखाया जाता है कि कितनी निर्ममता, कितने अत्याचार, कितने जुल्म और कितनी पाशविकता है, वही रवैया सिनेमा जगत के साथ जुड़े हुए लोगों का, नीचे के कर्मकारों के प्रति है। सरकार उनके प्रति उतनी ही निष्ठुर है इतनी जितने कि सिनेमा जगत से जुड़े हुए ऊपर के लोग हैं। इसलिये, उप-सभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं सरकार से निवेदन करना चाहती हूं कि हमारी फिल्मों में जब मूल्यों का क्षरण होता है, जब मूल्यों का नाश होता है तो वह मूल्यों का क्षरण और मूल्यों का नाश निश्चित रूप से हमारे समाज को भी प्रभावित करता है और समाज में भी उन मूल्यों का ह्रास होता है। इसीलिये लगातार हमारी आवाज उठती रही है कि हमारा सेंसर बोर्ड क्या करता है। हमारा सेंसर बोर्ड आंखें बंद करके तमाम फिल्मों में सेक्स और अपराधों को खुली छूट दे रहा है और आज उसका दुष्परिणाम हमारे समाज को भुगतना पड़ रहा है। इसलिये मैं निवेदन करना चाहती हूं कि आज भारत के सिनेमा जगत को तस्करों से मुक्त करने तथा इसके साथ-साथ क्योंकि तस्कर जिन मूल्यों के पोषक हैं जहां से यह पैसा आता है तो वहीं मूल्य फिल्मों में भी आते हैं। तो सिनेमा जगत को तस्करों से मुक्त कराने और ऐसे संगठित राजनैतिक गिरहों से मुक्त करने की जरूरत है और सिनेमा में फिर से वही पुरानी यथार्थवादी धारा को लाने की जरूरत है जिस यथार्थवादी धारा के अन्तर्गत हमारी फिल्में हमारे समाज का वास्तविक चित्रण करती थीं। नीचे के तबके से संबंधित रोटी जैसी फिल्में पहले बनती थीं लेकिन आज की फिल्में सिर्फ अपराध, हिंसा से भरी हुई हैं। इसके बारे में पूछने पर यह कहा जाता है कि ऐसी फिल्मों को जनता पसंद करती है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन करना चाहूंगी कि आज जरूरत है कि हमारी फिल्मों को इससे बचाया जाए और यथार्थवादी धारा की फिल्में शुरू की जाएं। इसके साथ ही साथ जो संगठित राजनैतिक गिरोह हैं, जो प्रगतिशील कलाकारों को धमकियां दे रहे हैं, सिर्फ इसलिए कि शबाना आजमी और ए०के० हंगल पाकिस्तान हाई कमीशन में जाकर लंच ले लेते हैं, इसलिए उनको धमकियां दी जाती हैं और कहा जाता है कि वे देशद्रोही हैं क्योंकि वे विशेष सम्प्रदाय से जुड़े हुए हैं। एक विशेष जाति से जुड़े हुए हैं लेकिन वही दूसरे नेता क्योंकि वह दूसरी जाति से जुड़े हुए हैं वे अगर पाकिस्तानी हाई कमिश्नर के साथ लंच खाते हैं तब कुछ नहीं होता है। इस तरह से मूल्यों का क्षरण हो रहा है, इसलिए मैं निवेदन करना चाहती हूं ..... (**व्यवधान**)।

श्रीमती सत्या बहिन (**उत्तर प्रदेश**) : जोशी जी गये थे (**व्यवधान**)

डा० मुरली मनोहर जोशी (**उत्तर प्रदेश**) : मैं उपराष्ट्रपति महोदय के साथ गया था (**व्यवधान**)

श्रीमती सरला महेश्वरी: वह समझदार है। मैंने संकेतों से काम लिया है। समझदार को शायद इशारा भी काफी हो। आप आज जो छोटा सा विधेयक लाए हैं, कम से कम इस विधेयक को इम्पलीमेंट करते समय, लागू करते समय मयार आपको ठीक कर देने चाहियें, मानदंड ठीक कर देने चाहियें।

श्री विश्वजीत पृथ्वीजीत सिंह: सर पकड़-पकड़ कर कह रहे हैं आप क्यों गए (**व्यवधान**)

डा० मुरली मनोहर जोशी: क्या करें आपको तो हर तरफ से सर पकड़ना है (**व्यवधान**)

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री मुहम्मद सलीम): आप बिल पर बोलिये, लंच डिनर के बारे में नहीं बोलिये।

श्रीमती सरला महेश्वरी: मैं इसलिए कह रही हूं कि लंच डिनर बंद कर दीजिये, मजदूरों की बात होने दीजिये। मंत्री महोदय से अपील करना चाहती हूं कि कम से कम इस विधेयक को लागू करते समय वे इस मयार को तो ठीक कर दें। एक हजार से 20 हजार रुपये तक की राशि जो निर्धारित की गई है, कम से कम उन फिल्मों पर जो बड़े बड़े इश्तेहारों को ले कर बनती हैं, वाणिज्यक फिल्में बनती हैं, उनसे आप अधिकतम राशि वसूल करने की कोशिश यदि करेंगे तो इस कोष का सदुपयोग कामगारों के व्यापक हितों में हो सकेगा। फिर भी आप कोष पर ही निर्भर न रहें। मैं यह चाहूंगी कि आप हमें यह बताएं कि आखिर कौन सी वजह है जिसके कारण आप सिनेमा को उद्योग का दर्जा नहीं दे पा रहे हैं? इसके कारण जो हमारा समानांतर सिनेमा था वह पूरा खत्म हो गया। समानांतर सिनेमा की जो एक धारा चली थी वह धारा पूरी तरह से खत्म हो गई है। अगर आप सिनेमा को उद्योग का दर्जा देते हैं तो हमारे प्रगतिशील जो लोग हैं, जो हमारे समाज के व्यापक जनजीवन से जुड़ी हुई समस्याओं को उठाना चाहते हैं, वह समाज की समस्याओं को सिनेमा के माध्यम से प्रस्तुत कर सकेंगे। आज उनके पास पैसा नहीं है। आप सत्यजीत राय की फिल्मों को पुरस्कार तो देना पसंद करते हैं लेकिन उन फिल्मों को पूरे भारत भर में दिखाया जाए, इसकी व्यवस्था आप नहीं कर सकते हैं। सत्यजीत राय भले ही कर्ज में फंसते चले जाएं और सरकारी अफसरों के चक्कर लगाते रहें। इसलिये मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहूंगी कि यदि वास्तव में आप हमारे सिनेमा जगत को यथार्थवादी धारा से जोड़ना चाहते हैं और सिनेमा जगत से जुड़े हुए कर्मकारों को मानवीय जीवन देना चाहते हैं तो आप एक सम्पूर्ण विधेयक लाएं और इस बिल का सदुपयोग करें। आज हम फिल्म जगत को तस्करों से मुक्ति दिलाएं, संगठित राजनीतिक गिरोहों से मुक्ति दिलाएं ताकि यह हमारे समाज को कुछ मानवीय मूल्य दे सकें। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस विधेयक का समर्थन करती हूं। धन्यवाद।

SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Vice-Chairman, at the outset, I place on record my appreciation and also my congratulations to the Minister for bringing this amendment. I have gone through this Act. There is no mention about the cine-workers. If I am wrong, I may be corrected by the Minister. Who is to be included in this? I would like to know whether it also includes Director, Assistant Director and

Script Writer. They all are cinema workers. It is a general term. There is no mention about it. This is a big question mark.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Including your leader.

SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN : Mr. Narayanasamy, please don't interfere. (*interruptions*). You are unnecessarily interrupting me. (*interruptions*).

It is your will and pleasure to honnob and interrupt people because you do not get such ideas. You want masala. Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, he has enlightened me about my Kalaignar. But he has not enlightened me about the Bill which does not describe a cine worker. It is not there.... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI MENTAY PADNABHAM : So even Mr. Narayanasamy can be treated as a cine worker.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : I agree with you because I can benefit under the scheme.

SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN : It starts from the light boy. Then there is the make-up man. There is the camera man. Then set makers, Directors, Assistant Directors, Script Writers, so on and so forth. They are all workers. Whom do you refer to in this Bill ? Some people have spoken about cinema people becoming Chief Ministers. In the United States, a cinema actor became President. Therefore, there is no bar. If he has the characteristics he can become the Chief Minister and he has become. But the whole world is today on the side of cinema. They are prepared to go hungry, they are prepared to starve, but they do not want to miss going to a cinema. Now the cine workers are suffering because of TV installations and TV circuits and all that. People are suffering. They do not have work at all. It is a pitiable condition. They have work for just 7 to 10 days. There was an article in which it was reported that there are lakhs and lakhs of workers who do not have work and they are begging on the streets. This was once considered to be the place for money. They are not having work and they are actually starving. On the other hand the cinema actors, it is openly published in the papers get a maximum of Rs. 1-1|2 crores to 2-1|2 crores and these people are starving. Some top cinema actors, I don't want to mention their names—said that they will reduce their salaries, in the sense of a few thousand rupees. This is the problem. On the one hand, cinema actors are becoming richer and richer. Apart from becoming Directors, they are into all kinds of trade. They are into real estates and also in building complexes and other things. The whole city is almost getting blocked. They are dealing in crores and crores worth of property. But the actual workers, the light man, the costume man, the make-up man, the set maker, they are not getting whatever they must get. I would like to suggest, instead of Rs. 1000, they should get Rs. 25,000. You can say minimum of Rs. 10,000 and maximum of Rs. 50,000. These people can afford to pay them. When they can afford to pay Rs. 2-1|2 to Rs. 3 crores to the actors they can pay this amount. You can say minimum of Rs. 10,000 and you can raise it to Rs. 50,000. This can be done with retrospective effect. There is nothing wrong about it. It is the name of these people which appear in the list of Income-tax arrears.

They are the actors and actresses. And we do not find any producers in the list. These actors and actresses are the ones who get two to three crores of rupees and who later by hook or by crook become Chief Ministers. Some of these people are now rolling in debts. Therefore, I would like to say that there is nothing wrong in having this with a retrospectiv

effect. As my hon. friend, Mr. Narayanasamy, has mentioned, I would like to know what the share of the Government is. There is no mention about it and the Government is keeping mum. You don't spell out what your share in the social welfare scheme which you are contemplating is. It is your duty, as the Government, to protect and look after the welfare of the people. I suggest that the Government must spell out and come out with some suggestions and tell us as to what extent they are going to share it. They must also say as to how much amount they are going to spend for the welfare of the cine-workers. With these words, I thank you for having given me this opportunity to express my views on this Bill.

SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD (Andhra Pradesh) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the Cine-Workers Welfare Cess (Amendment) Bill is, according to me, an eyewash. The Act which was passed in 1981 could not meet the real needs of the welfare of the cine-workers.

The Vice-Chairman (Shri V. Narayanasamy) in the Chair

By creating a fund of Rs. 8 lakhs for thousands and thousands of workers, it could not meet the real welfare needs of the people employed in that industry. What is it that they are going to achieve by this amending Bill ? This is a major question. According to the Government, the cine-workers are the ones involved in the production of films like the technicians, light-boys, make-up people and so on. Those people who are drawing less than Rs. 1600, according to the Government, are 27,000 in number. But, they are not the only cine-workers. Unless the Government extends the definition of a cine-worker, the real benefits will not go to the real people involved in the industry. For any industry to survive, it is not only the people in the production centres but you also find people from the distribution and other service centres. Recently, in a number of places in a number of States, the cine-workers are getting unionised. This has increased very much in the recent period. Who are these cine-workers ? They are not the people who are employed at the production level or in the studios but they are the people who are working in the distribution side like the gate-keepers, ticket sellers, who are engaged by the exhibitors in various cinema halls. I have no statistics as to how many people are employed in thousands of these distribution centres. So, my first suggestion is that the Government should not confine itself to thinking that the cine-workers are those employed at the production level only. If you include all these people, they may run into several lakhs.

They are the most highly exploited people, more than the people on the production side. Unless the Government extends the scope of the definition of "cine-worker", the real workers will not get benefited. The increase in the excise duty from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 20,000 would just meet the reduced value of the rupee and the idea to create this welfare fund by this increased income is just an eyewash. Perhaps in these 12-13 years, the rupee must have been devalued. This increase would only compensate that inflation. You may get some 50 or 80 lakhs of rupees by increasing this excise duty but that will not help the real purpose of this Bill. So, my second point is that this amount has to be increased. There may be some failure at the producers' level but at the actors' level, there is no failure. As my hon. friend has said, they are charging. Top heroes are charging up to Rs. 5 crores in Bombay, one or two crores in Hyderabad, two or three crores in Madras. But how could these producers pay this much of money to the top actors? I don't know how much is shown in their books. On that I am not clear. Even to produce a medium type film with top stars you will not be able to do it with less than Rs. 5

crores. It is not possible even in Hyderabad. According to my information, the minimum expenditure that is involved to produce a film is Rs. 50 lakhs. So, the range is from Rs. 50 lakhs to Rs. 5 crores depending upon the place; it may be Rs. 5 crores in Hyderabad and Rs. 10 crores in Bombay. What does it all mean ? How can the producers meet this expenditure ? Wherefrom these people are getting this huge money ? I know that there are many failures in the recent period. Even then, they are spending money. Instead of expenditure decreasing, it is increasing. This industry is taxable because when they can afford to spend so much money to produce a film, they can also contribute something to the welfare fund which is meant for their own workers. Not only the producers, even the exhibitors also should be taxed. By pooling all these resources, the Government can create a proper welfare fund to meet the needs of the cine-workers both at the production level and distribution level. Then only there will be a comprehensive approach, a comprehensive solution to the very difficut problems such as poverty, hunger etc. which are being faced by the cine-workers now-a-days. So, I request the hon. Minister to increase this excise duty rates as the rates suggested by the Government will not help the cine-workers much. The whole thing would just be an eyewash. He has brought this Bill after so many years. Therefore, I would suggest to him to reconsider the provisions of this Bill and enhance the excise duty so that he can create a proper welfare fund to meet the welfare needs of all types of cine-workers.

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Thank you, Sir, This is a small Bill which seeks to amend the original Act, the Cine-Workers Welfare Cess Act. 1981. I have no quarrel as far as this Bill is concerned. This Bill seeks to enhence the rate of excise duty levied on pictures. This is all right.

But there are certain issues connected with the cine-workers' welfare. Sometime back, as we all know, Mr. Richard Attenborough, produced the famous film "Gandhi" and according to the agreement with the NFDC, he was to give a certain amount of money—I do not remember the exact figure; may be about ten or five per cent of the profits—exclusively for the purpose of providing welfare to the cine-workers. But that money is not being given and the NFDC tried a number of times also. I take this opportunity to ask the Government at what stage this dispute is now. I was told, when this matter was raised in this House, that the money ran into several crores, may be about seven or eight crores of rupees or even more. I would like to know from the honourable Minister whether he had made any efforts to get back that money from him, which is a part of the agreement between him and the NFDC at the time of production of the picture "Gandhi".

As far as the Cine-workers Welfare Cess is concerned my friend suggested that it should be increased, that the minimum should be increased and that instead of one thousand to twenty thousand rupees, it should be from ten thousand to fifty thousand rupees. I agree with him because the cost of production of a picture is enormous, is fantastic and is mind-boggling. Some of the pictures cost five crores or ten crores or even more. Even in the case of Malyalam films, which are supposed to be low-cost pictures—they are very very less costly—they say that the cost has gone up to fifty lakhs or more. Therefore, to keep this figure of one thousand to twenty thousand rupees is not reasonable. By all means we can increase this amount and it may be from twenty thousand to one lakh rupees so that this money can be pooled together and spent for the welfare of the cine-workers. The cinema industry—I cannot call it an industry; it is a big field—reflects all the

inequalities that are in the Indian society. You have the top actor or top director who will charge a crore of rupees or even more and you have the low-paid cine-worker who will not be given even the minimum wage. There are a number of people who are working in this industry who will not even get the statutory minimum wage. The greatest variation is here between the highest-paid and the lowest-paid. Therefore, this has to be rectified. So, if the Government cannot do that, at least they can come out with a viable system of providing welfare to these unfortunate people.

Some of our friends, particularly from the Congress (I) benches, referred to some of the actors becoming Chief Ministers and top public leaders. There is nothing wrong in it. Every citizen in this country has a right to become a top leader in public life. It shows the vibrancy of our democracy and there is nothing wrong in it and nobody should worry about it. Opportunity should be given to everybody. At one stage, about twenty or twenty-five years ago, if you take the statistics relating to the various Chief Ministers, you will see that out of the 25 or 26 Chief Ministers, nearly three-fourths belonged to one caste. Now it is not so because all sections of the society are playing a vital role in our political life. They are occupying very high places in our public life. This is a good thing. It shows clearly the vibrancy of our democratic system. So, nobody should worry about it and feel sorry about it.

Why should anybody feel sorry about it ? Therefore, everybody, every citizen in this country has an equal right to become the Prime Minister or a Chief Minister or occupy any other highest office in this country. He can become anything in this country. That is the spirit of democracy.

With these few words, Sir, I support the Bill. And I also request the hon. Minister to go through the original Act first. But if there are some deficiencies in the original Act itself, as our friends have suggested, as far as definitions are concerned, there is a scope, there is a need for expanding the definition, there is a need for defining certain terms in a more clear-cut way, in an unambiguous way. Therefore, I request the non- Minister to go through the original Act once again and see what he can do about it, and see whether he can provide a viable agency to come to the rescue of these unfortunate people who have been paid very, very less in the Cine field.

श्री राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह एक विडंबना सी है कि जिस देश में "कर्म ही पूजा है" या "वर्क इज वरशिप" की बात की जाती हो, वहां जितना ज्यादा श्रम करता है व्यक्ति, उसी अनुपात में उसको जो वेतन मिलता है वह कम होता जाता है । इसी का परिणाम है कि इस सिने-जगत की चका-चौंध कर देने वाली दुनियां में भी वह लोग जो बहुत मेहनत करके एक ऐसी स्थिति पैदा करते हैं कि जो प्रोड्यूसर, डायरेक्टर और एक्टर को ज्यादा संपन्न बनाने का काम करते हैं, वही अपने जीवन-यापन के लिए बहुत मुश्किल से कमा, खा पाते हैं । यह जो दुनियां है सिने-जगत की, इसमें कुछ लोग ऐसे हैं, जिनके पास अपार धन-संपदा है और उनके नीचे ही काम करने वाले लोग हैं, मजदूर हैं, चाहे वह एक्सट्रा के रूप में काम करते हों, चाहे स्टेज पर और दूसरे तमाम काम करते हों, उनकी स्थिति अत्यधिक दयनीय है ।

यों तो पूरे देश में ही, उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, गरीबी बहुत ज्यादा है, चाहे वह ग्रामीण अंचल हो वहां भी

स्थिति मजदूरों की खराब है, काम करने वालों की खराब है, लेकिन जो बंबई या दूसरे नगर हैं, जहां पर बड़े पैमाने पर सिनेमा से जुड़े हुए लोग हैं वहां के मजदूरों की स्थिति और उनसे जुड़े हुए जो संपन्न लोग हैं उनकी स्थिति में बहुत जबरदस्त फर्क है। ग्रामीण अंचलों में जो लोग, मजदूर काम करते हैं, उनको इतना तो संतोष हो ही जाता है कि अगर वह उम्र में बड़े हैं तो सपन्न और दूसरे अन्य लोग भी उनकी इज्जत तो करते हैं, लेकिन यह सिने जगत तो इतना संवेदन-हीन हो चुका है कि सिनेमा के पर्दे पर चाहे जितना आदर्श दिखाता हो, परन्तु जो कम पैसा पाता है, जिसके पास पैसा कम है, जो गरीब है, जिसको हर वक्त यह चिंता लगी रहती है कि उसकी वृद्धावस्था कैसे कटेगी, उसके बच्चों की शिक्षा कैसे होगी, उसके बच्चों को रोजगार कैसे मिलेगा, उनके प्रति उन लोगों के मन में जो करोड़ों कमाते हैं, जिनमें प्रोड्यूसर हैं, डायरेक्टर हैं, एक्टर हैं, कोई संवेदनशीलता नहीं है। इसलिए जो अमेंडमेंट किया जा रहा है कि इसके जरिए कोष स्थापित किया जाएगा ऐसे लोगों के लिए, मैं समझता हूं कि लोगों की जरूरतों और आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने के लिए यह भी नाकाफी होगा।

क्योंकि जब तक सिनेमा को, जैसा श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी ने कहा, उद्योग का दर्जा नहीं मिलेगा, तब तक सारे लोग जो उसमें काम करते हैं, कुछ का तो रजिस्ट्रेशन भी नहीं होता है, कुछ डेली वेजिस पर ही अपनी जिंदगी काट देते हैं और जब बूढ़े हो जाते हैं तो उनको कहीं काम नहीं मिलता और वे पूरी तरह से असहाय हो जाते हैं, तो जब तक सिनेमा को उद्योग का दर्जा नहीं मिलेगा, जब तक वहां काम करने वाले लोगों को प्रोविडेंट फंड और अन्य सुविधाएं उपलब्ध नहीं होंगी, तब तक इस संशोधन को लाने की जो मंशा है, वह पूरी नहीं हो सकती।

इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह अनुरोध करना चाहूंगा कि इस सिनेमा जगत से जुड़े हुए लोगों को, इस पूरी व्यवस्था को एक उद्योग का दर्जा प्रदान किया जाए ताकि बड़े पैमाने पर लोगों को लाभ मिल सके। इसके साथ ही मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं।

धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : All the other names have been withdrawn. Now the Minister will reply.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : I am thankful to all the hon. Members who have taken part in the debate. This amendment has been brought with a very limited purpose to increase the cess from Rs. 1000 to Rs. 20,000. May I share information with the hon. Members that this Fund was created by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and was transferred to Labour Ministry on 1-4-86. Actually the Fund's transfer took place in 1987-88 and so very recently we inherited this Fund for the welfare of the cine-workers.

Many hon. Members talked about the working conditions of the workers who are working in the film industry. There is already one Act, Cine-Workers and

Cinema Theatre Workers (Regulation of Employment) Act of 1981 that regulates the working conditions and other matters of the people working in the field and this Act is exclusively for those who are working in the production side of the film industry.

Hon. Member, Mr. Venkatraman talked about the definition of the cine-worker. This is well-defined as to who are the cine-workers and who are entitled to this Welfare Fund in the act. Many other hon. Members, including Shri Mathur, mentioned about the welfare schemes and the Fund and also about the film 'Gandhi'. There is an agreement between the Ministry of information and Broadcasting and the producers of the film 'Gandhi' to transfer some percentage of tneir profits to that fund which is a non-statutory fund and is exclusively for the artists and not for cine workers. As I said, that is a non-statutory fund and the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting will be in a better position to give more information.

Some more points were also raised by the hon. Members about the cinema industry. I think that also will be for the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to reply.

There is a Central Advisory Committee to advise the Central Government about the functioning of this Welfare Fund.

It will also advise the Central Government on the welfare schemes they are going to take up. This Advisory Committee is well represented by representatives of the producers and the cine-workers. Government of India is guided by their advice, and it takes their advice in formulating schemes for the cine-workers.

On raising of the cess amount, I think, all the Members have agreed, and some of the hon. Members have suggested a bigger amount for that. We have fixed this amount in consultation with this Advisory Committee and in consultation with the I.B. Ministry because there are some merits. There are regional films also. There are those which are running on a loss and also those which are in difficulty. It will not be the same amount for all the films. As some of the Members rightly mentioned, there are films produced at the cost of Rs. 20 lakhs, Rs. 25 lakhs, and there are also other films produced at a cost of Rs. 10 crores, Rs. 15 crores. I don't think the cess will be equal for all the films. With the increased income to this Fund, definitely this Fund is going to take up more welfare schemes for the welfare of the cine workers, and the demand by the representative of the cine-workers and their association, I think, the Board will be able to fulfil up to some extent.

With these few words, I again request all the hon. Members of this House....

SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN : Will there be Government funding ?

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : Sir, there is no provision for Government funding.

SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN : What is it that you are contributing ?

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : We collect the cess, and we take up welfare schemes. There is no provision for contribution from Government side.

SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN : Please make a provision. That is our request. There is no provision. That is evident. That is why we want a provision.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : With these few words, Sir, I request the hon. Members to pass this Amendment as passed by the Lok Sabha.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) . Now I will put the Bill to vote. The question is :

That the Bill to amend the Cine-workers Welfare Cess Act, 1981, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : We shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill. Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : Sir, I move : "That the Bill be returned."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

THE BUDGET (GENERAL), 1993-94

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : Now we will take up the General Budget.

The Leader of the Opposition has informed that Shri Murli Manohar Joshi will speak on the Budget on Monday on behalf of the BJP. Therefore, may I request Shri Balanandan ?

SHRI E. BALANANDAN (Kerala) : I am supposed to be fourth. Nobody is there. You can adjourn the House now.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : It is not a question of adjourning the House. When the hon. Members are there, I can request them to speak.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : It is creating an impossible situation, Mr. Vice-Chairman. The only way is to adjourn the House. That is the only right way to do because nobody is prepared to speak now.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : No, no. Now the hon. Members are there. I am requesting them to speak on the Budget. We can sit up to 6 o'clock. Then, we will have the discussion on Monday, Friday being a Private Members' Day.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : Then should a Member from the Congress (I) speak ?

SHRI VISHVJIT P. SINGH (Maharashtra) : The normal convention in this House is that a senior Member of the Opposition initiates a debate on the Budget by opposing the Budget. Are we going to dispense with that convention for the convenience of a particular Member of the House ?

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : It is not a question of convenience.

SHRI VISHVJIT P. SINGH : I would like to know.

DR. JINENDRA KUMAR JAIN (Madhya Pradesh) : Please do not misrepresent.

SHRI VISHVJIT P. SINGH : Please tell us.

DR. JINENDRA KUMAR JAIN : Ask your leader.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : Something has been done to upset the whole day's schedule.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : May I point out that the time has been allotted by the Business Advisory Committee. Accordingly a List of Business for today